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(54) Title: STEM CELLS

(57) Abstract: A novel human embryonic stem cell line (hES-NCL1) is described together with a method for culturing a blastocyst and obtaining an embryonic stem cell line therefrom. Also described is the spontaneous partial differentiation of the embryonic stem cell line so obtained to produce fibroblast-like cells which act as an autogeneic feeder system to the stem cells. A novel fibroblast-like cell line hESC-NCL is described.